

## REMARKS

Office Action item 2 summarizes the basis for rejecting the claims, stating that “the claim language is broader than Applicant’s arguments”, and points out specific areas in independent claims 1, 17, 33 and 46 which “are too broadly written to distinguish over the features disclosed in the Yuyama and Ilcisin inventions”.

Item 2 more particularly states that “functioning independent of said camera” in claim 1 and similar statements in claims 17, 33 and 46 are too broad to distinguish the present application over the references. In response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 17, 33 and 46 to describe more fully the independence of the camera, which is necessary to distinguish the claims over the references. Claim 1 now limits the transceiver to “sending and receiving second digital data through a communications network and wherein said second image data is not sent to or received from said camera”. Also, the camera in claim 1 now “does not send or receive data to or from a communications network”. Applicants believe this limitation distinguishes the very different operation and structure of the device of claim 1 of the present application from the communicating camera devices of Ilcisin and Yuyama. Claim 17 also now disallows the camera from communicating through a communications network, and disallows the transceiver from sending or receiving data from the camera through a communications network. In claims 33 and 46 the camera now can not communicate with the transceiver.

In contrast to claims 1, 17, 33 and 46, the device of Ilcisin includes a camera that communicates over a network with another camera (col. 2, lines 38 – 48). In Yuyama (col. 1, lines 39 – 43) the device is described as a television receiver capable of transmitting image data . . . by means of a communications channel. Applicants believe that the claims of the present application now describe a device and method that is distinctly different in both

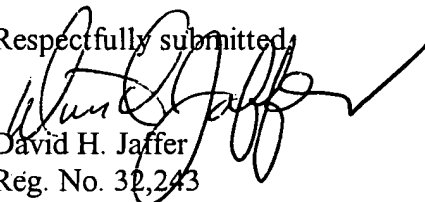
construction and application from the video communication devices of the cited art. The advantages of the present invention were discussed in the previous Office Action response, i.e. providing a device which enables a conventional digital camera to send and receive messages or advertising.

Applicant believes the independent claims now describe an invention that is not taught or suggested by the prior art, and that the remaining dependent claims add further limitations to allowable claims.

### CONCLUSION

Applicants have amended the claims to distinguish them from the prior art cited references and believe the claims now describe a novel and useful invention. If any further questions should arise prior to a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the attorney at the number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

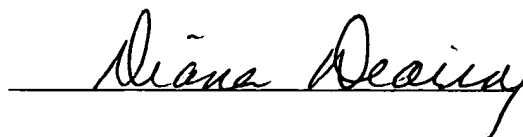
  
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### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX RESPONSE – NO FEE, Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 21, 2001, by Diana Dearing.



## APPENDIX

### Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

#### IN THE CLAIMS

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An integrated digital camera apparatus comprising:

(a) a housing;

(b) a camera built into said housing, said camera for picture taking as with a separate hand held camera, said camera including image capture apparatus for converting a light image to first digital image data and wherein said camera does not send or receive data to or from a communications network;

(c) message apparatus built into said housing with message functioning independent of said camera, said message apparatus including

(i) transceiver apparatus limited to [for] sending and receiving second digital data through a communications network and wherein said second image data is not sent to or received from said camera;

(ii) automatic signal transmission apparatus for automatically causing said transceiver to transmit a message request signal to said message center conveying an identification of said camera, when said transceiver is turned on; and

(iii) code apparatus for selectively receiving messages sent to said transceiver by a message center.

17. (Twice Amended) A digital camera message system comprising:

(a) a message center including

- 3 (i) apparatus for collecting, preparing and sorting messages to be sent to  
4 a transceiver in an assembly including a digital camera;
- 5 (ii) first communication apparatus responsive to reception of a message  
6 request signal conveying a camera identification for transmitting  
7 messages to said transceiver; and
- 8 (b) an integrated hand held assembly including
- 9 (i) a housing;
- 10 (ii) a camera built into said housing, said camera including image  
11 capture apparatus for converting a light image to first digital image  
12 data and wherein said camera does not send or receive data to or  
13 from a communications network;
- 14 (iii) transceiver apparatus for sending and receiving second data, not  
15 including said first data through a communications network, said  
16 transceiver apparatus not including said camera;
- 17 (iv) code apparatus including apparatus responsive to a code for  
18 selectively processing messages sent to said camera; and
- 19 (v) automatic signal transmission apparatus for automatically causing  
20 said transceiver apparatus to transmit a message request conveying  
21 an identification of said camera when said transceiver apparatus is  
22 turned on.

1 33. (Twice Amended) A method of communication comprising:

- 2 (a) preparing a message at a message center for transmission to a transceiver
- 3 included in a housing containing an independently functional camera
- 4 wherein said camera can not communicate with said transceiver;
- 5 (b) transmitting a message request to said message center by said transceiver,
- 6 said message request containing identification of said camera;
- 7 (c) transmitting said message from said message center to said transceiver; and
- 8 (d) displaying said message on a display apparatus.

1 46. (Twice Amended) A digital camera message system comprising:

- 2 (a) a message center including
- 3 (i) apparatus for collecting, preparing and sorting messages to be sent to
- 4 an integrated assembly containing a transceiver, and an
- 5 independently functional digital camera that is not functional to
- 6 communicate with said transceiver, said messages including
- 7 a) a generic message for transmission to all of a plurality of
- 8 said assemblies;
- 9 b) an interest group based message for transmission to
- 10 selected said assemblies of a particular interest group;
- 11 c) a personal message prepared for transmission to a selected
- 12 one of said assemblies; and
- 13 (ii) apparatus for transmission of said messages to said assemblies
- 14 including
- 15 a) apparatus for repeatedly transmitting said messages;

16                   b)     apparatus for including a code, for allowing each said  
17                             interest group message and each said personal message to  
18                             be received only by a corresponding selected said  
19                             assembly.